

The Fire Fighter Gazette

Issue 25

March 2002

Fire Fighter Recognition

Good work
recognized
is good
work
repeated ...

As we prepare to submit our folks for the annual DoD Fire Fighter Awards, I just wanted to share a few thoughts.

All of us have some great folks working for us, but unfortunately we don't always put our thoughts in writing. Good work recognized is good work repeated, and more than that, folks around the person recognized will also work towards equal recognition. So why don't we put our folks in for awards?

Simply stated, the number one reason is "It's too much work". The AF Form 1206 is not exactly the easiest form to fill out, I admit, but for those of you that have been around for more than a couple of years, remember the typewriter? The 1206 is a vast improvement, especially since you don't have to re-type the whole thing for one mistake!

How about this one..."I'm not very good at writing..." OK, that's a tough one to get around, but how many fire departments out there don't have at least one or two good writers? Put your thoughts to paper, then ask your professional writers to tweak it!

And the final excuse..."I don't know what the airman did..." This is the only excuse that requires you to get input from the member. Consider asking the young troop to create a "Glory File". Give him a disk and access to the computer, and ask them to write down all the good things they are involved in, as they occur!



Sometimes this may mean documenting those things the young Airman considers important to him/her. Most supervisors don't have any difficulty writing down the negative things, but fail miserably in documenting the good stuff. On the other hand, ask a young troop to write down some good things, chances are you will find they are more involved in things than you are aware of...all you have to do is help them out by putting these good things in writing! So...how successful is your recognition program? Success should not be measured in how many individual awards your folks win, instead, how many folks have you nominated over the last 12 months!



Inside this Issue ...

Stuff ...	2
Dust takes its toll on Troops/Equipment	5
Fire News	6
Civilian Fire Fighter Pay and Leave	9

Stuff...

Careers Program Changes

On-line Registration: We are pleased to announce that the On-line Registration is up and running.

Where Can I Register? You can access the online registration at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/cpreg/cpreg.htm>. To register, you access the Online Registration Web Site through the AFPC Secure website login, where you will enter your account information. Once you enter the AFPC Secure website select the **OCPR** option. The process for registration will remain essentially the same with emphasis on using Online Registration - the electronic Web-based capability. Online Registration is quick and easy and is accessible 24 hours a day from any computer hooked up to the Internet -- at home or at work.

I was registered under the old system, do I have to resubmit a new registration? If you were registered under the legacy system, you do not have to submit a new registration. All registrations under the legacy system that were in effect as of 31 Dec 2001 will transfer over to Resumix.

Contact your Career Program Representative if you need assistance in registering online, or if you have any questions regarding the requirements for registration.

Do I have to register to apply for jobs? Registration is no longer required to apply and compete for a Career Program position. Career Programs will continue to use registration for training nominations and selections, management and leadership development, assessments, interviews, career counseling, and workforce analysis. Learn more about Career Program Registration at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/2675.htm>.

New Senior Master Sergeants!!

We have 10 new Seniors in Air Force Fire Protection — be sure to call and congratulate them!

ALIMONDA, LOUIS F
CAVALIERO, MICHAEL
DONNETT, JAMES D
ELLIS, BRIAN E
HEITMAN, DENNY J
LARKIN, FRANCIS E I
MATLOCK, KEVIN W
SAMPSON, JIMMIE JR
STEVENSON, GERRODD
VANCISE, DARYL J

Mildenhall
Ramstein
Keesler
Little Rock
AF Academy
Incirlik
Ellsworth
Eglin
Scott
Lajes

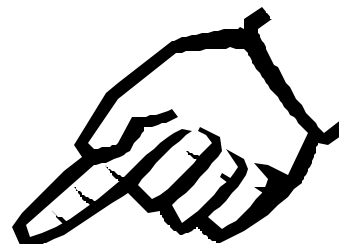
DOD FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING.

The DoD Fire & Emergency Services Strategic Planning meeting will be held at the National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, MD April 1-4, 2002. F&ES representatives from Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Defense Logistics Agency, Coast Guard, DoD Fire Academy, International Association of Fire Chiefs, IAFC Federal Military Section, International Association of Fire Fighters and the American Federation of Government Employees will meet to discuss, revise and update the DoD F&ES Strategic Plan.

FIRE RESCUE INTERNATIONAL.

Fire Rescue International 2002 promises to be an outstanding success in Kansas City this August. Exhibit space was sold out before the close of FRI 2001 in New Orleans. Invited to speak at FRI are President George Bush and former New York Governor Rudolph Giuliani. Note: The 2002 DoD Fire Conference schedule has been posted to the AFCESA web site:

<https://wwwmil.afcesa.af.mil/Directorate/CEX/Fire/default.html>



CONGRATULATIONS!

It was recently announced that SMSgt **Jamie Jimenez** was selected for promotion to CMSgt as a result of supplemental consideration. CMSgt Jaime Jimenez was promoted effective 1 Jan 02, and is currently serving as the Deputy Fire Chief at Davis Monthan AFB.

New 911 service comes to Dover AFB

By Airman 1st Class Andrew Svoboda
436th AW Public Affairs

"911 What is your emergency?"

Anyone who's heard those words knows the operator on the other end of the phone needs to be an all-important, all-knowing voice of reason and authority. For that reason, Dover Air Force Base made another first this week, becoming the first base to receive training by a nationally accredited emergency medical dispatch certified trainer, according to Base Fire Chief **Donald Striejewski**.

The class, which was attended by members of the 436th Fire Protection Flight and Security Forces Squadron, was also attended by firefighters from Scott AFB, IL; Air Force Academy, CO; Pope AFB, NC; Hanscom AFB, MA; Charleston AFB, SC; Travis AFB, CA; Fairchild AFB, WA; Edwards AFB, CA; Eglin AFB, FL; and Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.

Dover AFB has recently consolidated all its emergency services to one phone number, 911. In the past, base personnel would have had to call each agency individually, depending on the emergency, according to Striejewski.

"If someone needed an ambulance, they called the clinic. If there was a fire, they called the fire department," he said. "Often times, the person receiving the call only took basic information like name, address, and the type of emergency. By consolidating all calls to one dispatcher, base personnel can call 911 for any type of situation and the dispatcher will have the resources to get the caller the help they need for any situation."

There is a misconception that dispatchers just sit back and answer phones all day, and it's not a big responsibility, but this is not true, according to instructor Pete Zekoff, a certified trainer from Alabama Fire College.

"When you need help, you don't want to worry about who you're talking to," said Zekoff. "Dispatchers can have an intense and stressful job, which carries a lot of responsibility."

Students learned the importance of asking the right questions, in sequential order, as well as verifying information and listening techniques to dispatch the appropriate units as quickly as possible.

"After a unit is dispatched, help can still be

offered over the phone," said Zekoff. "You don't have to be a trained emergency medical technician to provide help. Dispatchers have resources to guide the caller through any emergency, from a heart attack or weather disaster to a shooting, and can offer the caller help until responders arrive."

During one portion of the class, students listened to real 911 calls, some successful and some not. During one successful call, an operator guided a frenzied father through administering CPR to his drowning baby. Students also received hands-on training, taking simulated calls on a dispatch console.

According to Senior Airman **Jeremy Valler**, 436th Fire Protection Flight, the class was a real eye-opener.

"Firefighters take turns working in the alarm (dispatch) room for six months at a time," said Valler. "I'm sorry I didn't take this class when I first went in, I'd definitely have a better outlook on it. There is so much more to the job than I originally thought."

Lisa Blair, a civilian who works at the fire department part time at Fairchild AFB, Wash., agreed that the training was valuable.

"Everyone needs to know what to do in case of an emergency, and part-time dispatchers need to be just as up to date as full-time dispatchers," she said. "There should be a conscious effort to have training at our base too, so everyone can have the training, not just one or two people."

Editor's note: The Air Force Academy Fire Department will be hosting the same course from 22 – 26 April, 2002. Although the class is full, we are considering hosting the course again later in the year.

Training Opportunity

The Air Force Academy Fire Department will be hosting the Texas A&M Emergency Services Training Institute's Fire Instructor II Course 19-23 August 2002 and the Fire Inspector II Course, 26-30 August 2002. Please contact our Assistant Chief for Training, Tracy Goodale for registration information:

tracy.goodale@usafa.af.mil

DSN 333-2051
Commercial 719-333-2051

The following letter was printed in the local newspaper near Langley AFB...
Amn Elkins is a Langley AFB fire fighter...we thought you would enjoy it.

Compiled by **Mike Holtzclaw**/Daily Press

Father to son

Nathan Elkins, an airman first class stationed at Langley Air Force Base, is currently deployed at a classified location. He sent a handwritten note home not to his wife, Chantel, but to their 6-month-old son who will be spending his first Christmas without his father:

Nicholas,

Hey, buddy, how are you doing taking care of Mommy for me? Are you crawling yet? I bet you are. Daddy is very proud of you, you being the man of the house for all this time. Hopefully Daddy does not have to leave again, but if I have to you'll know what I do. I am sorry I had to leave this time, but you'll understand when you're old enough to learn about it in school. I left so you don't have to leave your family when you're older. I want to make the world a better place so you and Mommy can live in peace. We are trying our hardest to see that it happens. ...

Don't worry, because Daddy will be home as soon as possible to throw you up and down. I want to hug you and kiss you and Mommy every day, but for now I have to do it in my dreams. I have the pictures you sent hanging on my box shelf. I wish I could be there to watch you grow and progress with life, but Mommy's getting it all on camera so I can see it when I get home. ...

Santa and I talked before I left and



Nathan Elkins shares a moment with his son, Nicholas, before deploying.

we made a deal. He will give you all you asked for and a little more. Hopefully I can give you and Mommy the best present — coming home — but I doubt it. Next year you and I will go all out. I will teach you everything about decorating for the holidays.

Hopefully I am making you and Mommy proud, because you both are making Daddy very proud. Well, buddy, Daddy loves you and tell Mommy I love her and give her and the family a big kiss and hug. I'll see you in my dreams. I love you all very much and miss you very much.

Love, Daddy

Looking for you?

The Air Force Academy Fire Department is looking for a few good....fire fighters! We currently have seven GS-5 Term positions open, and do not have enough qualified folks applying! A few facts about "term" positions:

Term employees get full benefits, including health, retirement, etc.

Term employees are being offered positions not to exceed 18 months, although we can extend that term up to the 4 year point.

The term employees are hired to bridge the gap until we have authorization to hire permanent employees.

One final fact, 4 of the last 7 term employees we hired have already been placed into permanent positions.

So please pass the word, if you know of any qualified fire fighters that are out there, have them apply!

Chief Duncan
USAF Academy, CO

Contract Employment Opportunity

EG&G, a Las Vegas, Nevada-based contract to the U.S. Government, seeks experienced Firefighters with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to operate within a dynamic and progressive environment. Potential candidates must hold Department of Defense (DoD) certifications for Firefighter II, Driver/Operator ARFF, Driver/Operator Pumper, Airport Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Operations (prefer Hazardous Materials Technician Certification), and an EMT-B certification.

The successful candidate will be provided an opportunity to obtain skills in High Angle Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Medical Technician (Intermediate), Confined Space Rescue, and Wildland Firefighting. Candidates must have a minimum of four years operational experience, and have the ability to pass a pre-hire medical examination, and a post-hire physical agility test. Must also qualify for and maintain a security clearance. Qualified female applicants are encouraged to apply. U.S. Citizenship required. Applicants selected will be subject to a government investigation, and must meet eligibility requirements for access to classified information. Pre-employment alcohol, and drug screening is required. AA/EOE Please E-mail your resume to: eggjobs@egginc.com

Congratulations!

Please join me in congratulating Chief **Robin Gullie** (Offutt AFB, NE) on his selection as the Air Force nominee in the category of Fire Prevention and Safety for the 2001 Government Employees Insurance Company Public Service Awards. Good luck at the next level of competition and Congratulations Chief!!!!

Dust Takes Toll On Troops, Equipment

By Lance Bacon, Army Times staff writer



KANDAHAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Afghanistan -

They've built their own showers and septic system, get an occasional incentive flight in an Army Black Hawk helicopter and cheerfully accept volleyball challenges from tactical air controllers. But not everything is fun and games for the 21 crash-and-rescue airmen who have deployed here from bases across the United States. They were among the first to arrive, and met conditions that were "worse than having nothing," as one airman described it. "We hit a bare base, and I do mean bare," said TSgt. **Charles Jenkins**, sent here from Dover Air Force Base, De. "We had to get everything up and running. We didn't even have toilets then. Only a bucket and a hole in the ground." Things are a little better now. The unit built its own three-stall restroom facility out of plywood - which has since been replaced by a more spacious and comfortable facility - and has erected a four-stall shower system. But this is no five-star hotel. "This is something I'm not particularly glad to experience, but at least I have something I can tell my grandkids one day," Jenkins said. The conditions also make it tough to keep the gear operating at peak levels. The unit has five crash rescue vehicles from the War Readiness Materiel reserve, which "for the most part are working good." But sandstorms and dust - and the lack of fire truck mechanics - make preventive maintenance tough. The truck has fallen prey to these woes, its service cut short by an air pressure leak that has left it with no brakes. But the other trucks are ready to roll and waiting for the call. Black Hawks and Apache gunships line the tarmac, and though rare, enemy fire has been reported in the area. Cargo jets continuously arrive and depart, delivering practically all troops and cargo into theater. Despite the heavy volume of air traffic and the enemy threat, emergency response has been light, for the most part. But the firefighters have had a moment or two. Airman 1st Class **Keenan Dowden**, of Travis Air Force Base, CA, remembers the night in early February when he heard a gunshot and hit the ground. The 20-year-old ran outside his tent, keeping as low as he could. About 50 feet away lay a wounded security forces airman. "I had no idea what had happened," said Keenan, who was first to arrive on the scene. "It was dark, and for all I knew, he had been shot by the enemy. Not knowing who shot him was the scariest part." Turns out he shot himself. An accidental discharge of his 9 mm pistol sent a round through his left cheek, entering near the lip and exiting below the eye. "The guy remained pretty calm," said A1C **Justin Pollard**, who arrived seconds later. "He was pretty

fortunate. The bullet missed his cheekbone, or that would have been shattered. Bullet pretty much cauterized the wound, too." That airman may have been lucky. But a soldier who was knocked out of his CH-47 Chinook and dangled underneath for eight miles wasn't quite as fortunate. SSgt **Matthew Grieve** took that call. The Chinook had made a hard landing eight miles from Kandahar - a very hard landing. The landing gear and loading ramp had been torn off, and the soldier was left hanging by his rip cord. "When the CH-47 came in, they cut the guy loose at the end of the runway," said Grieve, a 29-year-old from Dover. "He was in pretty bad shape, as you might expect after such a hard landing then being dragged for eight miles." The soldier had a compression injury to his neck, broke his leg, bit through his tongue and fractured some teeth, Grieve said. "He was alert, but in a lot of pain," he said. "He offered to buy us a beer in Germany when we get out of here. That was nice." Grieve recounted the events as he stood not far from the remains of two Soviet helicopters that lay where they crashed years ago. Why did he load the soldier in the back of a pickup truck instead of a rescue truck, he was asked by a member of the visiting media pool. His answer: Because time was of the essence - they were in danger of receiving enemy fire, and a helicopter with no landing gear was preparing to set down on a stack of pallets. Grieve said he wasn't sure which one was worse. Had the bird tilted left or right, the rotors would have hit ground and could have sent pieces of shrapnel flying. But the pilot made a smooth landing atop the pallets, much to the relief of crash rescue crews. "I've never seen anything like that," said Grieve. "I had a chat with the pilot. He was pretty shaken; I told him his guy was OK, and that made him feel better. That was his greatest worry." Grieve may see similar feats in coming months. Though March 23 marks 90 days in country, he's expecting to stay until June. Those 180-day deployments are the norm for crash rescue. "There's a lot of firefighters deployed in support of Enduring Freedom, plus we have the [Air Expeditionary Force]," Jenkins said. "So we're basically doing back-to-back AEFs. I don't like having to be away from my family so long, but this was a wise decision. It doesn't strip the bases of personnel." None of the firefighters knew whether or how soon they'd get tapped again. But Jenkins did know one thing: "I'll be home in June, and it will be wonderful."

Fire News



A fire at the 8th Air Force Headquarters building at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana kept base fire fighters busy for awhile on March 11, 2002. Initial reports indicated the fire may have been started by lightning.



Recently at a White House ceremony, President George W. Bush and Postmaster General John E. Potter unveiled a new "semi postal" stamp that will raise funds to provide assistance to families of emergency relief personnel killed or permanently disabled in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The price of the Heroes of 2001 semi postal stamp will be 45 cents. The 11-cent difference between the sales price of the stamp and the underlying postage in effect at the time of purchase consists of a contribution. Funds raised in connection with sales of the stamp, net of the Postal Service's reasonable costs, are to be transferred to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The stamp is expected to be available in post

offices nationwide starting in late spring.

The unveiling marked both the six-month anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks and the start date for the production of 205 million Heroes of 2001 stamps. "The Postal Service is proud to honor the men and women who gave their all in the rescue efforts following the terrorist attacks of September 11," said Potter. "Sadly, many of these true American heroes paid the ultimate sacrifice. We hope this stamp will be a lasting tribute to them and a testimony to the spirit and resolve of our great country."

Also participating in the unveiling ceremony were firefighters William Eisengrein, George Johnson and Daniel McWilliams and photographer Thomas E. Franklin. Eisengrein, Johnson and McWilliams participated in rescue efforts in New York City. Franklin, a staff photographer for The Record in Bergen County, N.J., took the now famous photograph of the three firefighters as they raised the U.S. flag at "ground zero."

Fire Department Driver/Operator-Pumper Course Goes Paperless



jurisdiction. That's right we did not cover any specific vehicle type.

ENROLLMENT: A formal message announcing the course activation date will be forthcoming. Enrollment is through the same channels previously used for CDC enrollments.

However, we are providing one copy of the course to each DoD fire department for their training reference library.

PROCESS: Once an individual has enrolled in the course and received their course materials they should complete the multimedia training course, prepare for the end-of-course exam using CerTest, take and pass the end-of-course exam, practice for the performance tests, successfully pass the required performance tests and submit the documentation necessary to become DoD certified.

OTHER COURSES CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT: The Driver Operator – ARFF course is scheduled for release in December 2002. The Fire Instructor I, Fire Inspector I, and Fire Officer I 7-level courses are scheduled to be released in the spring of 2003.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The fire apparatus driver/operator is a critical fire service duty position. A good driver/operator must be a quick thinker, possess good judgment, and also be calm and efficient in situations and environments that may cause great stress.

This interactive training course meets National Fire Protection Association Standard 1002, *Fire Department Vehicle Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications* (1998 Edition), and is designed to provide trainees with the knowledge and skills they need to become safe/effective fire apparatus driver/operators. Additionally, by successfully completing this course and the required performance tests, students will become DoD certified at the Driver/Operator – Pumper level.

COURSE NUMBERS:

Course 10023M is the interactive multimedia training course with a paper-based end-of-course exam and Course 10023S is the interactive multimedia training course with a computer-based final exam using the CerTest computer-based testing program. (NOTE: Make sure your test control facility has the ability to administer CerTest computer-based tests before enrolling in the "S" version of the course.)

BENEFITS: Standardizes driver's training across the Department of Defense and eliminates the need to purchase commercial publications because all of the information the student is required to learn is presented throughout the courseware. Other benefits include: automatic book marking, automated training records, and the ability to present the material to a group in a classroom setting for refresher training. Students can also work on this course at work or at home.

COURSE DETAILS: This powerful interactive multimedia courseware uses text, animation, audio, and video. Specifically, the course has six modules and each module has approximately five topics that take 20 to 30 minutes each to complete. For example, the student will learn how to inspect, operate and maintain the vehicle, make hydraulic calculations and perform pump operations. Module six covers the performance tests the student is required to complete using the pumping apparatus assigned to the authority having



The Official Pay / Leave Message

*In case you haven't seen the official Message (see related story,
page 8)*

19 March 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MAJOR
COMMANDS AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL
FLIGHTS

FROM: HQ USAF/DPFC 1040 Air Force
Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1040
SUBJECT: Holiday Observance for Certain
USAF Civilian Employees and Firefighters

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you of a policy change concerning holiday observances for employees receiving annual premium pay under 5 U.S.C. 5545(c)(1) and firefighters covered by the Federal Firefighters Overtime Pay Reform Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-277, effective 11 Oct 98). Effective immediately, when an employee is scheduled to work on a holiday and the employee is granted the day off for personal reasons, the employee will be charged annual leave, previously-earned compensatory time off, LWOP, sick leave, etc., as appropriate. This means that the use of excused absence is not appropriate for employees receiving annual premium pay under 5 U.S.C. 5545(c)(1) and firefighters covered by the Federal Firefighters Overtime Pay Reform Act.

These employees who are absent on holidays, which occur within their regular tours of duty, must be charged leave for those absences. They are not entitled to holiday time off because they receive a type of premium pay that includes pay for holidays. Unauthorized absence on a holiday on which the employee was assigned to work will result in loss of pay for that day, and could result in disciplinary action.

An appropriate change will be made to Air Force Instruction (A 36-815, Absence and Leave) Chapter 8, Paragraph 8.10.1. in an upcoming Interim Change (IC). This memorandum has been coordinated with the Office of Personnel Management, DoD Field Advisory Services (FAS), and AF/ILE. Any questions may be directed to Mrs. Lynda Lake, through your Major Command, at DSN 227-5285.

Transportation of SCBA

Here is the link to the most recent exemption for the transporting of air cylinders on aircraft and other modes of transportation.

<http://hazmat.dot.gov/exemptions/E10019.pdf>

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Lance P. Sijan Winner!

An Air Force Firefighter, SSgt Kile Stewart (Kadena AB) is one of the four Air Force recipients of the 2001 Lance P. Sijan Leadership Award. As you may remember SSgt Stewart is also the DoD Military Firefighter of the Year for 2001.

12/03/01 - RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- The leadership traits of Air Force people has garnered them the service's 2001 Lance P. Sijan Air Force Leadership Award, said officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here. The Sijan award annually recognizes a senior and junior officer and a senior and junior enlisted airman who demonstrates outstanding leadership abilities and are assigned to organizations at the wing level or below. Staff Sgt. **Kile W. Stewart** is the junior enlisted recipient. As a rescue crew chief for the 18th Civil Engineer Squadron at Kadena AB, Japan, Stewart led his crew during numerous crash, structural and medical emergencies. He provided fire protection for 4,000 facilities, more than 35,000 residents, and 135 assigned aircraft which perform 80,000 movements per year. The Lance P. Sijan award was created in 1981 and is named in honor of the first Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Medal of Honor. Sijan was shot down over Vietnam on Nov. 9, 1967 and successfully evaded capture for 45 days despite suffering severe injuries. He later succumbed to his injuries while in a Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp. Sijan was presented the Medal of Honor posthumously for his heroism as a POW.

Civilian Fire Fighter Pay and Leave

From Mr. **Don Warner**, Chief, Air Force Fire Protection:

As you may know, Mr. Aimone (ILE) requested that a full audit of civilian firefighter pay and leave be delayed for six months in his 6 Feb 02 memo to DPF.

I discussed this with Mr. Courbron (Audit Manager) recently and she informed me of what is currently planned.

An Audit Survey Report will be prepared that contains the deficiencies noted during the Survey. The Report will be managed (processed, answered) similar to a full audit report. Since deficiencies were noted in 100% of the sample, it is felt that the deficiencies are much more pervasive and needs to be addressed immediately.

Another Survey is expected within a year that will include 20-30 installations. This survey will then be used to determine if a full audit is needed.

I realize that pay and benefits are not normally something we functionals confront. However, the target personnel are in our community and we cannot sit idly by while actions of a few give a black eye to the entire community; or while the actions of a few give the appearance of impropriety to the entire field. I believe the misunderstandings that occurred in the past are exactly that - in the past. Everyone should know the rules now and there's no excuse for violating them.

Now, let me say that the issue of whether the rules that affect our people's pay and leave are right is not at issue. There have been some discussions of the "intent" of Congress when the law was passed and whether the Congress intended to deny firefighters holidays off with pay. Members who question the intent of the Congress should pursue other recourses to get the issue clarified so it is clear to the regulators. In the meantime, members must obey the rules written to implement the law.

The two issues are:

1. Who should be scheduled to work 53+ hours?

2. The use of leave by fire fighters on a 53+ schedule.

For 1, only those that are routinely needed to support fire operations should be scheduled to work 53+ hours. Periodic support for non-operations should be accomplished with regular overtime without changing the work schedule. Make sure the work schedule for those people on a 53+ schedule is consistent with the justification for working the increased schedule.

For 2, members who are scheduled to work on a holiday must either work or take leave, hour-for-hour, for the time not at work. The "scheduled" work could be 8, 9, 10, 24, or any other hours that you happen to be scheduled to work. For example, if the member's normal schedule is to work 9 hours on Monday and Monday happens to be a holiday, the member must either work 9 hours or take leave for the hours not worked. If the member's normal schedule is to work 24 hours on Monday and Monday happens to be a holiday, the member must either work 24 hours or take leave for the hours not worked.

Thanks and have a good day.

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Air Force Fire Chief
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